

# Missouri State Archives

## Finding Aid [998.363]

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### MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

#### Governor Forrest Smith Collection

*Abstract:* This collection contains one document and six photographs of Missouri Governor Forrest Smith (1949-1953).

*Extent:* 8 items

*Physical Description:* Paper; Photographs

*Location:* Missouri State Archives; Stacks

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

*Alternative Formats:* TIF

*Access Restrictions:* None

*Publication Restrictions:* Standard copyright rules apply

*Preferred Citation:* [item description], [date]; *Governor Forrest Smith Collection*, Record Group 998.363; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

*Acquisition Information:* Gift; Accession #2010-0025

*Processing Information:* Initial processing completed by ES on 02/04/2010; finalized by EW on 09/06/2017. Updated by EW on 03/25/2021.

### HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

*Quoted directly from Finding Aid 3.42:*

“Forrest Smith was born on February 14, 1886 near Hardin in Ray County to James P. and Lillie Hill Smith. He received his secondary education at Woodson Institute in Richmond, Missouri. Upon graduation from Westminster College in Fulton, Smith taught school and served as principal of the Richmond Grammar School. He married Mildred Williams on October 12, 1915 and they raised two daughters.

“A Democrat, Smith began his political career in 1910 as deputy assessor for Ray County. He was elected as Ray County Clerk in 1913 and held that position for eight years. From 1921 to 1925, Smith operated a jewelry business in Richmond. Appointed by Governor Samuel Baker to the Missouri Tax Commission in 1925, Smith served until 1932 when he was elected to state auditor. He left the Office of the State Auditor to successfully campaign for the 1948 gubernatorial election.

“On January 10, 1949, Forrest Smith was sworn in as the 42<sup>nd</sup> Governor of Missouri. Erroneous innuendoes of organized mob influence affected his relationship with the Democratic Party and impacted his ability to accomplish anything of substance with the Missouri General Assembly. In 1951, the Governor signed into law the Municipal Land Clearance for Redevelopment Act which expanded and improved public infrastructure.

“Smith completed his sole term and retired from public service in 1953. A dormitory on the University of Missouri campus was constructed in 1961 and named in his honor as was Forrest Lake, the centerpiece of Thousand Hills State Park in Adair County. He died March 8, 1962 in Gulfport, Mississippi and is interred in Ray County in the Sunny Slope Cemetery in Richmond.”

## ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

### Related Collections

RG3.42 Forrest Smith, 1949-1953  
RG005 Secretary of State Publications Portrait Collection  
MS336 Louise and Omar Putman Collection

### Additional External Resources

*Copied directly from Finding Aid 3.42:*

Kansas City Public Library, Missouri Valley Special Collections hold the following collections containing materials pertaining to Governor Smith:

AC27	Williams Photograph Studio Collection, 1920-1959
SC66-2	Edith Lowe Peters Scrapbooks, 1900-1970
SC 84	James A. Hazlett Papers, 1929-1997

The State Historical Society of Missouri, Columbia holds:

C2220, Forrest Smith (1886-1962) Papers, 1940-1953. 72.6 linear feet of materials and 11 volumes comprise the collection and includes correspondence, reference files, speeches, and miscellaneous materials.

Smith, Forrest. *Collections and Disbursements During the Year...Sales Tax Department* (Jefferson City, Mo.: Forrest Smith, State Auditor, 1937).

Smith, Forrest. *Rules and Regulation relating to the Missouri Sales Tax Act (House Bill No. 6, 59<sup>th</sup> General Assembly): effective June 8, 1937: Two Per Cent Sales Tax. Issued by Forrest Smith, State Auditor of Missouri* (Jefferson City, Mo.: Missouri State Auditor, 1937).

Smith, Forrest. *Rules and Regulations Relating to the Emergency Revenue Act, 1935: In Force August 27, 1935: One Per Cent Sales Tax, Issued by Forrest Smith, State Auditor of Missouri* (Jefferson City, Mo.: Missouri State Auditor, 1935).

Smith, Forrest. *Rules and Regulations Relating to the Missouri Sales Tax Act: Two Per Center Sales Tax, Issued by Forrest Smith, State Auditor of Missouri* (Jefferson City, Mo.: State Auditor, 1941).

University of Missouri-Kansas City, Miller Nichols Library holds:

Arthur B. Church KMBC Radio Collection

Audio recording of the dedication ceremonies for the new KMBC building. Governor Smith attended.

## DOCUMENTS, 1949

*Arrangement:* N/a

### Scope and Content

This is an 8" x 10" certificate for Smith's membership in the International Mark Twain Society. It is signed by Cyril Clemens. The document has been scanned and is available on Manuscript DVD #4 in the Reference Room.

### Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	132	2	International Mark Twain Society membership certificate for Governor Forrest Smith	05/18/1949

## PHOTOGRAPHS, 1949-1953

*Arrangement:* Chronological

### Scope and Content

Photographs featuring Missouri Governor Forrest Smith. The first two images (Folders 3 & 4) are public domain and may be freely distributed. The rest of the images are still under copyright and standard copyright rules apply.

All images are scanned on Manuscript DVD #4 in the Reference Room.

### Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	132	3	Governor Forrest Smith (right) marches past two files of Honorary Colonels on his way up to the Capitol Building for his inauguration. Departing Governor Phil Donnelly is by his side. The Louisiana Purchase Memorial is in the background. It's a cloudy, rainy day. 7½" x 9½" Photograph by Gerald Massie.	01/10/1949
	132	4	A line of people files past Missouri's new Governor Forrest Smith during his inauguration ceremonies. 7½" x 9½" Photograph by Gerald Massie.	01/10/1949
	132	5	New Missouri Governor Forrest Smith shakes hands with a woman during his inauguration ceremonies. A man in a military uniform smiles at the camera. 7½" x 9½" Photograph by Jackie Martin.	01/10/1949
	132	6	Governor Forrest Smith sits at a dinner table with two couples. Another woman sits opposite him at the foot of the table. This appears to be Smith's mother. The table centerpiece is a garland, Christmas ornament, and candles. Two copies (8" x 10" and 7" x 9"). Photographer unknown.	1949-1952
	132	7	Five women in nice dresses and corsages sit on one side of a long table. Banquet. 7 3/8" x 9 1/4". Photographer unknown.	1949-1953
	132	8	Governor Forrest Smith sits at the center of the head table for a banquet. The event appears to be in a Shriner's mosque. Portraits of Harry S Truman, Governor Smith, and another man adorn the wall behind the head table. 9" x 13 ½". Photographer unknown.	1949-1953